This course presents a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach to understanding violence against women and children. Drawing upon a wide range of academic and community resources, the course will trace the historical development and construction of violence as a social issue. Feminist and anti-racist theories examining the use of violence as a means of social control will be studied, as will the various forms of resistance to this violence developed by women at the local and global levels.

This course has been developed in partnership with the FREDA Centre for Research on Violence Against Women and Children, and will draw upon the Centre’s accumulated knowledge of community based, participatory action research. Guest speakers and films will be used to supplement lectures, and course participants will be encouraged to translate their critical thinking skills into a concrete plan of action for resisting violence against women and children.

**Required readings:**

**Recommended readings**
Johnson, H. *Dangerous Domains*.

**Course requirements and Grading Structure:**
- Group Action Plan 30%
- Book Review 20%
- Course Participation 20%
- Final Paper 30%

**Prerequisite for WS 302:**
6 credit hours in Women’s Studies including WS 101 and/or WS 102.

Women' Studies Graduate courses are offered in conjunction with undergraduate courses. Graduate students are requested to meet with the instructor to discuss the increased workload and grading expectations.